

Dear students, parents, staff and educational partners;

Congratulations to all eight United Scholastic Academy Teams, across all four campuses on a stellar inaugural year!

Thank you to all members of the United Scholastic Academy Family, parents, coaches, teachers, advocates, advisors, site administrators and directors of basketball operations for your untiring efforts to ensure the success of each student, both on and off the court.

The spring break traditionally signals that we are in the home stretch of the academic year. In these unusual times we find ourselves, it also signals the end of the Provincial Government mandate around wearing masks indoors, mandatory screening, and physical distancing. Although students and staff can still choose to wear masks, they are not required to enter the building, sit in class, or participate in any training. The spring break also signals March Madness for the NCAA, with all of the exciting buzzer beaters and unbelievable plays that traditionally have defined the great old tournament. For our students it signals the start of the off season and arguably the most important phase of their development as athletes. It is in the off season that non-dominant hands are developed, shots are refined and muscle memory makes them consistent, muscle is built and fast twitch muscle fibers are maximized. It is critical though that no one loses sight of the fact that our students are still working on their culminating summatives; our teachers are progressing through the curriculum to ensure students are prepared for their culminating summatives, providing SAT prep activities while coordinating to ensure that all overall expectations have been met for each of the courses, they are providing prior to the conclusion of the 20221-2022 school year.

Coaches, Site Managers, and Directors of Basketball Operations are busy running identification sessions for next year, while looking at our waiting lists to assess which players can be brought into the United Scholastic Academy family so as to ensure our Teams can be as competitive as possible for the 2022-2023 competition year. Our Head of Curriculum continues to work with teachers providing support around instructional practices, as well as assessment and evaluation. Our Academic Advisor is training on the Ministry's new reporting software and expectations, while continuing to review Ontario Student Records to ensure all Ministry compliance requirements around student data, mark submission, report cards, OUAC submissions, Clearing House submissions and SAT / ACT accommodations requirements are met, and assisting students that have started their university application process. Our student and family advocate will be commencing professional learning with our staff around anti-black racism and the intentional disruption of institutional marginalization.

United Scholastic Academy continues to make herculean efforts to ensure that the focus is and will always be the development and growth of your children, as such I would like share some timelines:

- Parent Nights will be taking place across all four campuses, either in person or virtually.
- Training does not end with the end of the competition season, training continues right to June 30th, 2022, as players need to establish good habits and clear foci for their off-season development.
- Identification Camps are being held throughout March and as DOBOS deem necessary throughout the spring.

- Invitations to students being considered as part of the 2022 - 2023 Teams across all four campuses will be sent out around the end of April and wait lists will be established by the end of May 2022.

The seven months since opening day continue to see students grow academically, as athletes and as young men. Our students are aware of the expectations of them as respectful, contributing members of the United Scholastic family, specifically;

“United Scholastic Academy believes that school promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment.” [United Scholastic Academy Code of Behaviour United-Scholastic-Academy-Policies-and-Procedures-Handbook-2021-2022.pdf \(usacademy.ca\)](#)

The expectations of students are extremely high at all times on and off campus, on and off the court, because as member of the United Scholastic Academy of Schools, they are representing United Scholastic Academy and impacting the reputation of United Scholastic Academy at all times. If you have any questions please follow the flow charts, previously shared with you, on how parents and guardians can address concerns related to academics as well as concerns related to the basketball programs. In the coming weeks and months, you will be learning more around what year two will look like at United Scholastic Academy, Team offers, course offerings, class placements and, teacher and coaching assignments.

I wish you and your loved ones a healthy, safe and happy spring break.

Sincerely,

Chris Sarellas

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